



**Bicycle/Pedestrian
Advisory
Committee
of the
Metropolitan
Planning
Organization
for the
Miami Urbanized
Area**

Chairman
Ted Silver

Members
Brett Bibeau

Sheila Boyce

Dr. Barry Burak

Brian Hannigan

Bruce Henderson

Amado Leon

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BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SOUTH MIAMI COMMISSION CHAMBERS
6130 SUNSET DRIVE
SOUTH MIAMI, FLORIDA

A G E N D A

**MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2003
AT 7 P.M.**

- I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2003
- III. PRESENTATIONS
 - A. PLANS FOR BICENTENNIAL PARK, PARCEL "B" AT AA ARENA, & VIRGINIA KEY – R. Weinreb, City of Miami
- IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS
 - A. BISCAYNE TRAIL UPDATE – T. Silver
- V. INFORMATION ITEMS
 - A. BIKE&RIDE DAY – D. Henderson
 - B. RICKENBACKER CSWY. UPDATE – J. Cohen, M-DPW
 - C. YEAR 2004 TENTATIVE BPAC MEETING DATES – D. Henderson
 - D. OCTOBER PROGRESS REPORT – J. Manzella

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ted Silver Sheila Boyce
Brian Hannigan

MEMBERS ABSENT

Brett Bibeau Barry Burak
Bruce Henderson Amado Leon

OTHERS PRESENT

David Henderson, Staff Jae Manzella, Staff Robert Weinreb, City of Miami

The meeting began at 7:13 p.m.

<u>ISSUE</u>	<u>DISCUSSION</u>
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	- SB: <i>Motion to approve Minutes of October 22, 2003; seconded by BH; vote – unanimous.</i>
BICENTENNIAL PARK PRESENTATION	- RW: (Had a slide show of existing conditions.) The new City Administration is interested in completing the Downtown Miami Baywalk, as well as focusing on developing Virginia Key and a Coconut Grove Baywalk. <i>Downtown Baywalk would run from Pace Pk to Miami Riverwalk.</i> Bicentennial Pk is being redesigned. The Miami Heat lost it's development rights to Parcel B; the City wants a park there. Pace Pk was redeveloped and the baywalk portion is complete. However, connections at the Women's Club, the I-395 ramp and the Port of Miami could be problematic. Negotiations with the Women's Club, DERM, DPA, etc. will allow a wharf to be built, east of this property. Experts have indicated that I-395 will not bar Baywalk development underneath. Security and aesthetics are a concern; presently, this is a homeless encampment. Bicentennial Pk will be affected by FDOT's future realignment of Biscayne Blvd.; which will include enhanced pedestrian crossings. The seawall will have to be redone. Hopefully, the sewage plant at the park can be hidden from view, or buried. Part of it is on city property. A view corridor from Biscayne Blvd. and 2 museums (MAM & Museum of Science) will energize the area. JM: Inquired about the connection from AA Arena to Bayside. RW: Plans for a pedestrian bridge have been eliminated. <i>Money set aside for this project will go towards construction of Baywalk.</i> There are new residences being constructed, those people need a place to go in Downtown. The boat slip is too expensive to fill-in; so, <i>plans call for cantelivers in that area to hide debris that regularly pile-up in this area. A litter pick-up boat will also be commissioned.</i> BH: Hopes more can that be done. The debris is hazardous to aquatic life. JM: Inquired about routing people under Port Bridge. RW: There is room to do so. The FEC tracks will stay, although trains haven't been used on them for a while. The Port controls these tracks. <i>Some sort of crossing will be done.</i> JM: Hopefully, these can be made as flush as possible to the surface. RW: Along Miamarina, automobiles park along the edge, and other barriers exist. This is prime waterfront, mostly used as a parking lot for buses. Much of the area needs amenities to lure people to the bay. <i>Miami One is promising a signature Baywalk/Riverwalk connection.</i> He hasn't see the plans. BH: Worried that the facility may be too narrow. RW: <i>Public meetings will be held. The Waterfront Advisory Board plans 1 in January.</i> The BPAC could request to be part of this. There is supposed to be a 50' set-back. <i>The Dupont Plaza will be raised, and another building will be erected.</i> Hopefully, they will accommodate Riverwalk. The City has been waiving the 50' set-back requirement.

	<p>DH: Bijons restaurant has been putting tables next to the edge, which impeds travel.</p> <p>SB: Developers are using Riverwalk as a selling point. The new generation of developers understands the river's value.</p> <p>DH: A contiguous route is important. It is unfortunate that the Dupont Plaza closed off access to the public. There also has been difficulty with the City of Miami cooperating in projects, rather than developers.</p> <p>RW: The City is progressing, due in part to new staff. The BPAC should be proactive. Funding possibilities need to be identified. A Master Plan for Virginia Key is planned.</p> <p>TS: Inquired about the rumour regarding expanding parking for the Seaquarium.</p> <p>RW: Seaquarium staff claimed rights were given to develop a parking lot on the north side of Rickenbacker Cswy. in the 1950's. The County Mgr. recently insisted that this was true and recommended approval of the project. Sequarium staff did all the background work, which was later found to be erroneous. NOAH, MAST Academy and the Virginia Key Trust are incensed. The Master Plan will bring this issue to a decision. Bicycle and pedestrian trails/overlooks are envisioned to connect the whole area.</p> <p>TS: Bicyclists and pedestrians are interested in continuing to use this area. He has been approached by some to request access past the lagoon, where a gate prohibits access.</p> <p>RW: That property is from the original bay dredging project. He hopes to open it up to the public. Several Commissioners are actively pursuing the 105 acre landfill for public use. DERM will help clean it up; and it could be part of the tax bill, so the City won't bear much cost. Athletic fields, a campground, or some other sort of passive use will be pursued. There is a small amount of money, which is available in 2019. The City and County may issue GO Bond proposals next year. Unfortunately, the sewage treatment plant will be around for another 50 years. The current Mayor wants the majority of this island to be public use. The area that might be developed is the Marine Stadium area.</p> <p>JM: Other municipalities have developed successful off-road cycling parks with landfills. They are making money with them. Perhaps the City could do the same.</p> <p>RW: There is also a possibility of turning the area into a National Park.</p> <p>JM: Noted that ATB parks are often maintained by volunteers dedicated to making their parks successful. Asked about access to the Herald and Marriot properties.</p> <p>RW: The Herald is very favorable to allowing the public to use their existing facility. There hasn't been any opposition to the project from other businesses.</p> <p>BH: Volunteer/adopt-a-path programs could be developed to maintain the facility.</p>
BISCAYNE TRAIL UPDATE	<p>- TS: Staff from DERM, Public Works, Parks & Recreation, DH & himself made a short field review of the area. DERM was concerned with maintenance access; but, all issues seem to be resolved. He is concerned with major developments in the area, which the consultant didn't seem to understand. He is not convinced that proper coordination is being done. Another meeting is planned to review the most current plans with what is on the ground presently. The plans brought before, (just one page), seemed unrealistic. Pinecrest's redesign of Red Rd. path, (which the BPAC reviewed previously), is probably more realistic for Galloway Rd. Several newly expanded roads are not in the consultants' plan. He is trying to avoid obvious problems. He asked not to have palm trees installed along the facility, because of falling fronds. They don't give much shade, either.</p> <p>BH: BPAC made similar concerns for the busway; tree roots are starting to break it up.</p> <p>TS: Everyone is aware that there is a maintenance problem in the County. Only 1 vehicle is available for bike paths, and there isn't a clear idea of who owns it. It is not being used.</p>
BIKE & RIDE	<p>- TS: The County officially designated November 14, 2003 as Bike&Ride Day. Restrictions</p>

DAY		<p>have been eased on bringing bicycles aboard transit vehicles.</p> <p>DH: (Had a slide show of the event.) The MDT & MPO Directors, Commissioner Barrerio, the Chairman of the CITT, a cyclist from the County Attorney's Office, and other dignataries were there. He demonstrated how to use the rack; and there was a ribbon cutting for the 10 new lockers at Government Cetner Station. Wakenhut guards do not yet have the materials to issue on-the-spot permits at stations.</p>
RICKEN- BACKER UPDATE	-	<p>DH: The new person in the Contracts Division says a major update is pending. There may be good news next month.</p> <p>TS: Many people are looking forward to this project being completed.</p>
YEAR 2004 MEETING DATES	-	<p>TS: Requested anyone with a conflict to dates proposed in the Agenda to inform him.</p> <p>SB: She will not be able to attend the meeting on March 24th.</p> <p>JM: September 22nd is during Rosh Hashanah. This may conflict with some members. Also, December 22nd is close to Christmas, when members may be busy.</p> <p>BH: He may be out-of-town then.</p> <p>TS: He too may have alternative plans. Would prefer to have the meeting on the 15th.</p> <p>DH: <i>This will be changed.</i></p>
MISCEL- LANEOUS	-	<p>{ BH: Inquired as to appointments MPO members were to make for the BPAC. Perhaps the group should persue enlisting old members to come back.</p>

{ *The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.*